Fraud in Super-Sensitive Project of DRDO

901. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that super-sensitive project of the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) condemned "Divya Drishti", Rs. 570 crore mega surveillance system has suffered a serious set-back with a fraud being detected involving a key supplier of equipment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Electronics Corporation of India Ltd. (ECIL) was the prime production agency responsible for procurement of subsystems as per the approved specifications. Delivery of some of the subsystems, which were to be part of the main system, could not materialize due to issuing of a directive to cease any dealings with the firm. It is likely to affect the progress of the project. It will not be possible to make an exact assessment of delay. However, all efforts will be made to keep it to the minimum.

(c) The alternative mechanisms are being evolved for meeting the technical requirements, and objectives of the project.

Assistance to Families of Martyrs

†902. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the families of martyrs, who lost their lives defending the country are not getting sufficient assistance;

(b) if so, whether Government are going to formulate any action plan to provide assistance to the families of martyrs; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) A comprehensive package has been implemented by the Government to provide help to widows/Next of kin of martyred soldiers. As per the extant Government orders, the families of the Armed Forces personnel

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.